

1  
2 **9. ISSUE: BLACK'S HANDLING OF TRUTHFULNESS INVESTIGATION OF**  
3 **DEPUTY AMY GOLDING, A DEPUTY UNDER HIS COMMAND – SUBJECT:**  
4 **BLACK (Munnell Memo p. 28)**  
5

6 **Director Larry Black**  
7

8 B8A. Allegedly, Director Larry Black participated in or condoned the destruction of  
9 reports evidencing untruthfulness by Deputy Amy Golding, the niece of Deputy  
10 Chief Rollie Seebert. Black, who had the investigative report in hand, conveyed  
11 to Seebert that he was going to discard the report. These events reportedly  
12 occurred 4-5 years ago.  
13

14 **MUNNELL'S WRITTEN ACCOUNT**  
15

16 Black covers up a Truthfulness investigation of a Deputy Sheriff under his command by  
17 destroying the document instead of sending the investigation to Internal Affairs.  
18

19 Another serious allegation against Larry Black involved the protection of an employee related to a  
20 member of the command staff: While assigned as the Deputy Chief of Patrol, Black summoned  
21 Deputy Chief Rollie Seebert to see him in his office. Upon arrival, Black showed Seebert an  
22 administrative investigation involving District One Deputy Amy Golding, Seebert's niece. The  
23 investigation was based on an allegation of lack of truthfulness against Deputy Golding. Based on  
24 the Hendershott's stand on truthfulness, Golding would have been terminated had the case been  
25 forwarded to him and handled within policy guidelines.  
26

27 When Seebert arrive at Black's office, Black asked Seebert what he wanted done with the file and  
28 the investigation. Seebert replied to Black that he should handle it the way it should be handled,  
29 indicating he was not asking for any favors. Black replied to Seebert that he "didn't get it," and  
30 Black pointed to the trashcan. The file was not forwarded to Internal Affairs for further  
31 investigation, or returned to the District, and no further action was taken against the Golding. The  
32 inappropriate handling of the administrative investigation by Black was later brought to the  
33 attention of the command staff of District One Patrol, who was aware of Black's decision to  
34 "shred" the file and protect the employee from termination.  
35

36 **WITNESSES LISTED BY MUNNELL**  
37

|                               |                                   |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 38 Director Rollie Seebert    | Uncle of Golding met with Black   |
| 39 Lt. Ed Sheppard (retired)  | Aware of case and Black's actions |
| 40 Deputy Chief Frank Munnell | Advised of matter by Seebert.     |
| 41 Director Larry Black       | Nonfeasance in matter.            |

42

43 **NARRATIVE SUMMARY**  
44

45 Black met with Deputy Chief Rollie Seebert and showed Seebert a divisional  
46 investigation involving Seebert's niece, Deputy Amy Golding. The investigation  
47 suggested a lack of truthfulness of Golding. Based on Hendershott's stand on  
48 truthfulness, Golding would have been terminated had the case been forwarded to him

(Hendershott), handled within policy guidelines, and if the allegation was sustained. Seebert indicated that he did not want any favors and Black pointed to the trashcan, indicating his intention to discard the document.

#### RELEVANT DOCUMENTATION

Internal Affairs reportedly had no documents on file relating to any divisional or IA investigation relating to Amy Golding.

#### WITNESS ACCOUNTS

##### Frank Munnell

Munnell's source of information relating to this allegation is Rollie Seebert, the uncle of Deputy Amy Golding. Munnell's account relating to this particular issue is set forth on pp. 41-44, Exhibit II 28b.

##### Travis Anglin

Anglin has no information relating to this allegation.

##### Barry Hamill

Sgt. Hamill was not involved in the investigation of Deputy Amy Golding.

##### Rollie Seebert

Seebert did not recall when this event occurred, but he believes that it was in approximately the early 2000's, when Amy Golding, Seebert's niece, first went out on patrol. Larry Black called Seebert into his office, handed Seebert a memorandum, authored by a Sergeant named "Ike." This memo suggested that Amy had failed to do her paperwork, and was behind on reports. Basically, Amy had indicated that she had completed her reports, but records reflected that she had not done so. The memo suggested that she had lied to her supervisor, Sergeant Doug Beatty, about it, and Beatty suggested that a truthfulness investigation be performed. As Seebert recalls, the memo was fairly direct in the assertions by Sergeant Beatty that she had been lying, and therefore could possibly receive major discipline.

Seebert indicated that he read the memo, and told Larry Black, "Do what you have to do." In response, Black said something like, "Well, I'll take care of it," and when Rollie again said "Do what you have to do," or words to that effect, Black then said, "You don't get it, I'll take care of it." According to Rollie, Black gestured in such a way that he was conveying to Seebert that the matter was not going to be investigated.

1 Seebert never spoke with Black about this interchange again. He went back to his  
2 office, and called up Lieutenant Ed Sheppard, the District 1 Admin Lieutenant. Rollie  
3 was aware the Ed Sheppard had seen the memo about Rollie's niece, Amy Golding,  
4 and knew that Amy was Rollie's niece. According to Rollie, he said, "and no excuses,  
5 absolutely no wheel room here. Make her get them done and keep on top of her to  
6 make sure she gets her shit in." (p. 32, Exhibit II36) Rollie did not tell Ed Sheppard  
7 about his encounter with Hendershott and he did not speak with Amy about it until the  
8 Hendershott memo was released in 2010.

9  
10 Seebert denies that he encouraged Black to throw the memo away or not proceed with  
11 a Truthfulness investigation. In fact, he told Black, at least twice, "Do what you have to  
12 do," or in other words take whatever appropriate action is necessary. Black never  
13 talked with him about it again, nor did either of them bring up the subject.

14  
15 **Larry Black**

16  
17 Larry Black's response about this was as follows.

18  
19 A: Oh, okay. The reality is, I don't remember this. All I can tell you is that,  
20 Rollie Seebert was not a friend of mine. Amy Golding was not a friend of mine.  
21 She didn't work in Lake Patrol. And the only thing I can think of is that this was  
22 something that, for whatever reason, they didn't have a case. I mean, if I didn't  
23 feel like there was a case, then I didn't do anything with it. Like, that's what my  
24 job was. And I would be interested to know what it was because I have no  
25 recollection of it whatsoever.

26  
27 Q: Do you have any notion where she was working at the time?

28  
29 A: No.

30  
31 Q: Was she in your chain of command?

32  
33 A: I, by what they're saying here, like I said, I, I don't remember this at all. I  
34 mean, if it did happen, and that's why I can't argue, it's like, I, all I can go is add  
35 the extra side to it is, that Rollie Seebert and I are not friends, we've never been  
36 friends. Amy Golding, I don't, wouldn't know her if I saw her, and so, for me to  
37 do what he says here is totally out of character of, if there was no case I would  
38 throw it away, no matter who it was. I would take the name out of it and then if  
39 there's no case, then I may have said, if I, I would, I don't, I'm not sure that I  
40 knew that that was his, I mean, I know now after reading all this, but, I'm not sure  
41 that I knew the, the relationship part there, but, it would be very clear for me to  
42 call in Seebert and say, hey, you know, who is this, his sister or something, but,  
43 whatever. That, the, whatever she did, you know, is inappropriate but, doesn't  
44 have enough, they don't have a case on it or something to that affect and do  
45 whatever. I mean.... (p. 89, Exhibit II7a)

1  
2 The team pointed out to Black that the underlying circumstances may not have been  
3 serious, but what was of greater importance, given the importance of the Truthfulness  
4 policy at MCSO, was that a truthfulness issue had arisen.

5  
6 The bottom line is that Black has no recollection of these set of circumstances. He did  
7 add, "I still feel that my job was to screen these kinds of things, and, you have to  
8 remember I got lots and lots of these in over a ten year period, for me to remember  
9 every specific one of them, and I know it appears all the time, you say you don't  
10 remember, like you're concealing, but, I genuinely can't remember some of this stuff,  
11 because they were nothing." (p. 90, Exhibit 117a)  
12